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Subject: RE: Bass Lengths
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Sorry for the second e-mail, but something else to consider for the smallmouth bass target range is when the fish is estimated to switch to a predator diet. According to the North et al. study (2002) this is when they are >250 mm. During the Round 1 effort this criteria was in place and agreed to by the LWG, although they had trouble getting the larger ones. I think this was due to the use of electrofishing as the sole collection tool (ineffective below 10 ft). Since smallmouth bass represents the predator guild in PH they should be representatives of others in the guild such as walleye. For this reason, we may want to consider dropping smaller fish from the composites that would not be representative of predator fish.

-Jennifer